

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

865D 60

SEE 865d.01/107 FOR #1710

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED May 29, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING:

Industry. Meetings held to discuss industrial plans for Ethiopia under auspices of Industrialists Confederation in Rome, headed by Count Volpi, attended by officials of industrial and farm labor syndicates.

Industry.

Meetings have been held to discuss industrial plans for Ethiopia under the auspices of the Industrialists Confederation in Rome, headed by Count Volpi (page 14 of the despatch under reference), attended by officials of industrial and farm labor syndicates, professional men and artists, and industrialists interested in metallurgy and machinery, wool, cotton, and silk production, leather, mining, electrical plants, oil seeds, and foodstuffs.

865D.60/1

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

2

SEE 865d.01/119 FOR #1733

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED June 23, 1936

TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Industrial activity in Italian East Africa has been divided into three categories as follows: Industrial cooperation in all projects constituting basis framework of the economic structure; production and processing of native materials; and Exports of Italian Industrial products to Ethiopia.

ge

865D.60/2

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 765.84/4802 FOR Telegram #250, 3 pm.

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED July 7, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Italian exploitation of Ethiopia. Present plans for the-
envisage only a gradual development of its resources beginning
first of all with the surface. Cost of policing and develop-
ment of public works.

wth

865D.60/3

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.01/142 FOR Despatch #1756

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED June 26, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING:

Economic and industrial development in Italian East Africa.
Arrival in Addis Ababa of trade mission of the Industrial-
ists ' Confederation. Institution in Addis Ababa of a
Commission on Economic and Financial Reconstruction of the
Viceroyalty.

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The President of the Industrialists' Confederation on June 15th reported to the Duce on work done by the Confederation in pursuance of the Duce's instructions. Under the auspices of the Confederation in cooperation with other Confederations, he declared, companies for the utilization of colonial raw materials required for Italian industry had been formed and companies for other important raw materials were in process of formation. He went on to say that the Confederations, under the guidance of the Colonial Ministry and with the cooperation of the Ministry of Corporations, proposed to place efficient groups at the Government's disposition, without, however, excluding other concerns which were in a position to carry on similar business activities.

The trade mission of the Industrialists' Confederation (See despatch No. 1733 of June 10, 1936, page 21) recently arrived in Addis Ababa after studying the systems of transportation in Egypt, the Sudan, French Somaliland, and Eritrea. It has already established its offices and is taking steps to coordinate all commercial enterprises in East Africa. It announces that in the near future a large number of stores will be built and furnished with Italian merchandise.

On June 15th a "Commission on the Economic and Financial Reconstruction of the Viceroyalty" was instituted in Addis Ababa. This organization, which is described as a sort of general economic staff to study and report on all matters

matters regarding the economy of the Empire, is composed of representatives of the home Government, the Viceregal Government, the Civil Governorship of Addis Ababa, the Fascist Federation of Addis Ababa, the East Africa Quarter-master's Office, the Bank of Italy, the Customs Service, the military courts, the Finance Guards, and the Carabinieri. It may also have representatives of other economic organizations, whether metropolitan or native.

A commission of experts will shortly leave for East Africa to study the hydroelectric resources of the conquered territory in behalf of the National Union of Electrical Industries, which is forming a consortium, composed of various Italian concerns, to establish power plants in Ethiopia. One of the companies of this group is said to be putting up some 10 million lire of capital.

The Confederations of Industrialists, Artists and Professional Men, Building Industrialists and Contractors of Public Works, and the Federation of Building Proprietors, will send a mission composed of several architects and an official of the Ministry of Public Works to countries having a climate similar to that of Ethiopia to study the manner in which architectural and housing problems have been met there.

At a meeting of experts held in the Ministry of Colonies on June 23rd, under the chairmanship of the Minister, the following resolutions were adopted: 1. The Minister of Colonies shall make agreements with the Minister of Corporations and the Minister of Agriculture and Forests for obtaining the collaboration of the competent trade-union and corporative organs with a view to the study and solution of general problems regarding industrial development in Italian East Africa. 2. The following

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.01/157 FOR Despatch #1797

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED July 22, 1936.

TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Exploitation of the products of Ethiopia. Fascist Confederation of Industrialists has announced that many companies are in process of formation for the- List of products which will be exploited.

wth

865D.60/5

6

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.01/224 FOR Despatch #105

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Dec. 2, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o r o

REGARDING: Industrial and economic development- Italian East Africa.

fp

865D. 60/6

WE KFC

Industrial and Economic Development.

It will be recalled that the Ministry of Colonies on September 16 and October 21 published lists of firms authorized to do business in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatches No. 1889 of September 16 and No. 47 of October 22, 1936). A third such list was published on November 14 comprising the following classes of firms: building materials, 6; chemical products, 2; machinery, 1; import and export trade, 2; restaurants, cafes, etc., 3; bakers, 2; foodstuffs, 9; butchers, 3; textile products and clothing, 9; and travelling salesmen, 5.

The Stefani Agency states that the Governor of Addis Ababa, with a view to controlling the cost of living, has given orders that merchants selling goods at unduly high prices will be punished by the closure of their shops, imprisonment up to three months, and fines up to three thousand lire.

The "Company of Tanners of Ethiopia" was recently formed in Rome. It plans to send a mission to Ethiopia to investigate the possibilities of establishing a tanning industry there, as most leather is now being spoiled by the natives through improper curing.

The Prefect of Naples on November 24, announced that, by order of the Duce, Naples has been designated the port for the importation, processing, and reexportation of hides from Italian East Africa.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.01/320 FOR Report #76

FROM Naples (Withey) DATED Oct.21, 1937
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

REGARDING: Government control of industrial and commercial enterprises in
Italian East Africa.

865D.60/7

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.00/34 FOR Report #44

FROM Naples (McCloud) DATED April 28, 1938
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Industrial plants - Italian East Africa.
New Italian program for Ethiopian autarchy will
include the establishment of certain --, as comple-
ments to home industries but not in competition with
the latter.

lec

865D.622217

865D.60/8

8651.60
(3) The establishment of certain industrial plants as complements to home industries but not in competition with the latter. They will be limited to satisfying the demand for only the most necessary local articles so as to avoid the necessity of importing them from Italy. Additionally, such industries will pertain to cement, chalk, tiles, barbed wire, etc. - all of great need in time of conflict. Where the necessary raw materials exist in the colonies, there will be encouraged a development of light mechanical industries leaving the heavier operations for home factories because of the comparatively high cost of erecting such establishments.

Central File: Decimal File 865D.60, Internal Affairs Of States, Italian East Africa, Industrial Matters., May 29, 1936 - April 28, 1938. May 29, 1936 - April 28, 1938. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link. link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109727707%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.